



NOOLAHAM FOUNDATION
நூலக நிறுவனம்



ANNUAL REPORT

2024

www.noolaham.foundation



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02. Chairman's Message



It gives me great pleasure to share my message, and the review of the Noolaham Foundation's achievements during the year 2024.

First and foremost, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the members of the Board of Directors, heads of organizations, volunteers, stakeholders, and the staffs who contributed in various ways to advancing the mission of the Noolaham Foundation to document, and preserve the knowledge, properties, and values of Sri Lankan Tamil-speaking communities.

In 2024, our Board members actively contributed to diverse areas such as regular finance, process mentorship, project mentorship, theme mentorship, collaborative partnerships, project sales and ownership, workshops, seminars, meetings, events, volunteer engagement, and sustainable fundraising. We are especially grateful to the 28 collaborative organizations who extended their support this year.

During the year, 19 project documents were uploaded to our website, seven new projects were launched, and ten projects were successfully completed through the efforts of our staff, volunteers, and the stakeholders. By the end of 2024, the Noolaham Foundation proudly marked its 19th anniversary, carrying forward an outstanding record of achievements.

Of particular note, the Foundation received more borrowed documents than donated ones, yet, 782 documents were donated through the Jaffna and Iqbal Collections. Our digital presence also expanded significantly, with 35,977 new users visiting the Noolaham Multimedia platform and, 269,525 new users accessing the Noolaham website.

The Foundation also initiated virtual talks centered on four primary themes: projects, research, rare documents, and pipeline initiatives. Regarding these themes, several online discussions were organized, which saw enthusiastic participation from the community.

Two major events, the Thai Pongal Festival and the 19th Anniversary Celebration were held on January 15, 2024, at both our Head Office in Chundukuli, Jaffna, and our Regional Office in Batticaloa. We also actively participated in community events, including the YGC Innovation Festival, Jaffna International Book Festival, Neduvuur Festival, Agricultural Exhibition, and the Eravur Book Festival. These provided valuable platforms for raising awareness about our mission and activities.

The Trincomalee Regional Documentation Project, initiated in 2023 to preserve the district's history, traditions, customs, arts, cultural elements, and social structures, faced suspension this year due to lack of funds. A special meeting was convened at the Trincomalee Office on July 28, 2024, to explore ways of sustaining this important initiative.

We also welcomed 13 students from the History Department of the University of Jaffna, who successfully completed their internship with us. An induction and farewell ceremony was held in their honor, recognizing their valuable contribution.

With the experience gained over the past two decades, and with strategic planning, I am confident that we can progress at twice the pace in the coming years, provided that we receive more financial contributions. I take this opportunity to invite and encourage more well-wishers to support our organization through generous contributions.

Finally, I look forward to welcoming more volunteers, authors, and publishers to join hands with us in strengthening the Foundation and expanding its impact in the years ahead.

I wish the Noolaham Foundation continued success!

R. Pathmanaba Iyer
Chairman
Noolaham Foundation

03. Mission and Guiding Principles

Mission

Noolaham Foundation's mission is to document and preserve knowledge, properties and values of all spheres related to the Sri Lankan Tamil speaking communities, make such knowledge accessible to all and capacitate communities to engage in knowledge building and learning.

Main Objectives of Noolaham Foundation

Noolaham Foundation endeavors to:

- Document, preserve and digitally archive ethnography and knowledge bases of mainstream and marginalized communities including dialects, belief systems, myths, rituals, folklore, games, indigenous medicine, law and administrative systems, technologies and arts.
- Engage in and support preservation and digital archiving of written, print, multi-media and electronic resources related to Sri Lankan Tamil speaking communities.
- Provide knowledge and information services to ensure free and open access, thereby supporting educational, research and development endeavors related to Sri Lankan Tamil speaking communities.
- Build communities of practice, processes, technologies and standards of archival, library and information sciences through communication, networking and collaboration.
- Noolaham Foundation's mission is to document and preserve knowledge, properties and values of all spheres related to Sri Lankan Tamil Speaking communities, make such knowledge accessible to all and capacitate communities to engage in knowledge building and learning.

Guiding Principles

Unity

Entities of Noolaham Foundation shall exist in different geographical, legal and political territories. Noolaham Foundation always ensures unity in its strategic framework, design, program, budget and communications.

Diversity

Diversity, inclusivity and pluralism are at the core of our mission. Noolaham Foundation recognizes and energetically affirms the dignity of those it serves, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, social background, religion/irreligion, place of origin, age, physical or mental capabilities. Noolaham Foundation is committed to these values in its organizational governance, programs and collections.

Openness

As the driving force of Noolaham Foundation is centered on open data, open access and open knowledge, it does not charge end-users for accessing its archives. End-users should not use the contents for individual or corporate economic gain.

Transparency

Noolaham Foundation strives to be open and transparent in all of its operations. Our commitment includes detailed accounting, project and annual reports, timely dissemination of information and responsiveness to requests for information.

Unbiased

Noolaham Foundation is an unbiased entity. While it engages volunteers from different political thoughts and parties, it does not allow volunteers to use the Noolaham Foundation for their political engagement and leverage. Noolaham Foundation shall take appropriate measures to prevent it from being politicized or labeled.

Volunteerism

Volunteerism is the basis for all Noolaham Foundation operations. The Annual Work Plan will be formulated emphasizing volunteer contribution in order to optimize the operational overheads and performance targets for each team.

Collaboration

Noolaham promotes synergy among similar organizations in digital documentation and preservation, thereby avoiding duplication and repetition of work. Noolaham Foundation shall collaborate with institutions when such collaboration optimizes Noolaham's productivity.

Participation

Broadening and strengthening the participation of the stakeholders of Noolaham Foundation is part and parcel of the Noolaham culture. It consults with stakeholders regarding policies and decisions that affect the business of Noolaham Foundation.

04. Introduction

Noolaham Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization (GA 2390) founded to provide enhanced access to information sources and foster knowledge-based development in Sri Lanka. It maintains an online digital library, facilitates information preservation programmes, provides financial assistance and technical guidance for digitization initiatives, and actively participates in awareness-raising campaigns. It also co-ordinates a range of fund-raising activities and collaborates with other [organizations](#) and individuals. The free Internet library [www.noolaham.org] and Archive [www.noolaham.media] maintained by the Foundation serves as a learning center incorporating local knowledge and enabling social interaction with a view to achieving constructive social outcomes. It functions as a repository for various institutions, and fulfills the information needs of students, researchers, historians, activists and the public. Volunteers of Noolaham Foundation engage with Noolaham Activities globally and establish Noolaham chapters in their respective countries to achieve the mission of the Foundation.

Organizational Structure

Noolaham Foundation is a community digital library and a community digital archive. Community leadership, stewardship and ownership are key organizing principles for the organization. Noolaham Foundation encourages a collaborative-leadership framework whereby contributors lead one another to achieve organizational and community goals. We steward community resources consciously to support social justice and knowledge based community development of all the communities we serve.

All of Noolaham Foundation's ongoing activities have been organized into sectors, and sectors into processes. In addition, Noolaham Foundation undertakes time bound projects. Each process and project with the exception of governance, governance board meeting, and resource mobilization processes are managed by staff. Volunteers in Sri Lankan and diaspora contribute to processes and projects as process/project mentors, subject matter experts and contributors. Staff and volunteers of a process or project together consist of the team for that process or project. A Processed/Project Based Management (PBM) has been adopted to effectively manage Noolaham endeavors to serve the community needs. Currently, there are eight sectors and forty eight processes.

Sector 00: Governance, Policy and Strategy

Sector 01: Organizational Management and Operations

Sector 02: Program and Projects

Sector 03: Digital Processing and Preservation

Sector 04: Digital Library, Archive and Information Services

Sector 05: Technology Infrastructure and Development

Sector 06: Finance, Human Resources and Administration

Sector 07: Advocacy, Communications and Public Relations

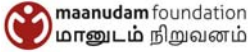
Sector 08: Multimedia Production and Documentation

The Governance Board is the primary decision making body for Noolaham Foundation. It consults with Grey Board, Management, Staff as well as other stakeholders as needed to direct Noolaham Foundation activities.

In addition to volunteers and staff, Noolaham Foundation relies on and is answerable to the wider Noolaham Foundation Community. The wider Noolaham Community consists of Friends of Noolaham, Content Contributors, Source Contributors, Collaborative Organizations, Volunteers and Benefactors.

05. Gratitude and the support of collaborative organizations

No	Organizations Names		Gratitude and Support
01		British Library	Provided financial support for the Palmleaves manuscript Digitization Project
02	N/A	Evelyn Ratnam Library	Provided materials for the William Digby Collection Project.
03		Sirakukal Amaiyaam	Supports the Open Educational Resources documentation project.
04		Wikimedia Foundation	Provides support for the Noolaham Foundation Wikimedia platform.
05	N/A	Ayothi Library Service	Providing support for digital library team
06		Forum to Assist Children's Education (FACE)	Provided financial support for the Open Educational Resources Project
07		Killi People	Provides financial support for the Kilinochchi Regional Documentation Project .
08	N/A	JAFFNA MEDICAL MUSEUM TEACHING HOSPITAL JAFFNA (JMMTHJ)	Provided support in documenting the museum collection.
09		Manitha Neyam Trust	Provided financial support for the Jaffna Public Library Collection Project.
10	N/A	Arasadi Public Library	Provides office space support and documents for digitization.
11		Peththalai Public Library	Provides documents for digitization.

12		BBK Partners	Supporting Annual returns submission in respective countries.
13		University of Toronto Scarborough Library	Provided financial support for the Muslim Ephemera project
14	N/A	SAIVANERI KOODAM TAMIZHAR KALARI	Provided financial support for the Eelam Related Tamil's Documents in Tamilnadu India project.
15		Thalam	Provides support for the Noolaham Foundation's Trincomalee Documentation Project
16		NORTH CAROLINIANS FOR PEACE FOUNDATION	Provided financial support for the Indigenous people project.
17		Maanudam Foundation	Provided financial support for the Eelam Related Tamil's Documents in Tamilnadu India project
18		Roja Muthiah Research Library	Provides consulting services to the Noolaham Foundation in the areas of documentation and preservation.
19		Ezhuna	Provides their publications for digitization.
20		Chunnam Public Library	Provides documents for digitization.

21	 University of Jaffna Library	University of Jaffna Library	Provides documents for digitization.
22		Jaffna Public Library	Provides office space support and documents for digitization.
23		Vision Global Empowerment	Provided financial support for the appoint the internship students
24		Jeevanathi Publication	Provides their publications for digitization.
25		Ontomatrix	Provided technical support for the Noolaham Foundation
26		Aravanai	Provided financial support for the Cloud storage.
27	 International Medical Health Organization (IMHO)	International Medical Health Organization - IMHO	Provided financial support for the Medical history of Northern Province Project.
28		Magudam Publication	Provides their publications for digitization.

06. Collections and Services

The Noolaham Foundation delivers a range of services to its users and communities, with its capabilities designed to develop, sustain, and enhance these services.

At the end of 2024, the Noolaham and Multimedia websites achieved significant milestones. The chart below illustrates their accomplishments and growth.

1. Noolaham - Digital Library



With over **5.6 million** pages (digitized), largest online Tamil digital library.

2. Noolaham Media - Multimedia Library



With over **41,748** multimedia documents and ephemera.

3. Noolaham School - Educational Resources



The digital repository now holds more than 18,394 educational resource documents.

4. Manuscripts Archive



2,15,818 Manuscript pages from North and East of Sri Lanka digitized in collaboration with the British Library.

5. Special Thematic Research Collections



Muslim Collections, Women Collections, Upcountry Collections and various thematic collections.

6. Oral Histories



772+ Oral History recordings of various individuals and personalities.

07. Work at a Glance

Type of Documents	2005 - 2023	2024
Digitized pages	5.07 Million	587,180
Palm-leaf manuscript pages	1,55,996	59,822
Newspapers	66,200	5,177
Magazines	16,539	971
Books	17,917	4,307
Commemorative publications	8,484	233
Open educational resources	15,923	2,471
Oral histories	694	78
Photographs	6,197	373

Bricks

In 2024, the Governance Board members, Grey Board members, Potential Grey Board members, and Emeritus Board members made valuable contributions in several areas, including regular finance, process and project mentorship, collaborative partnerships, project sales and ownership, volunteer engagement (mentors and co-mentors), and sustainable fundraising.

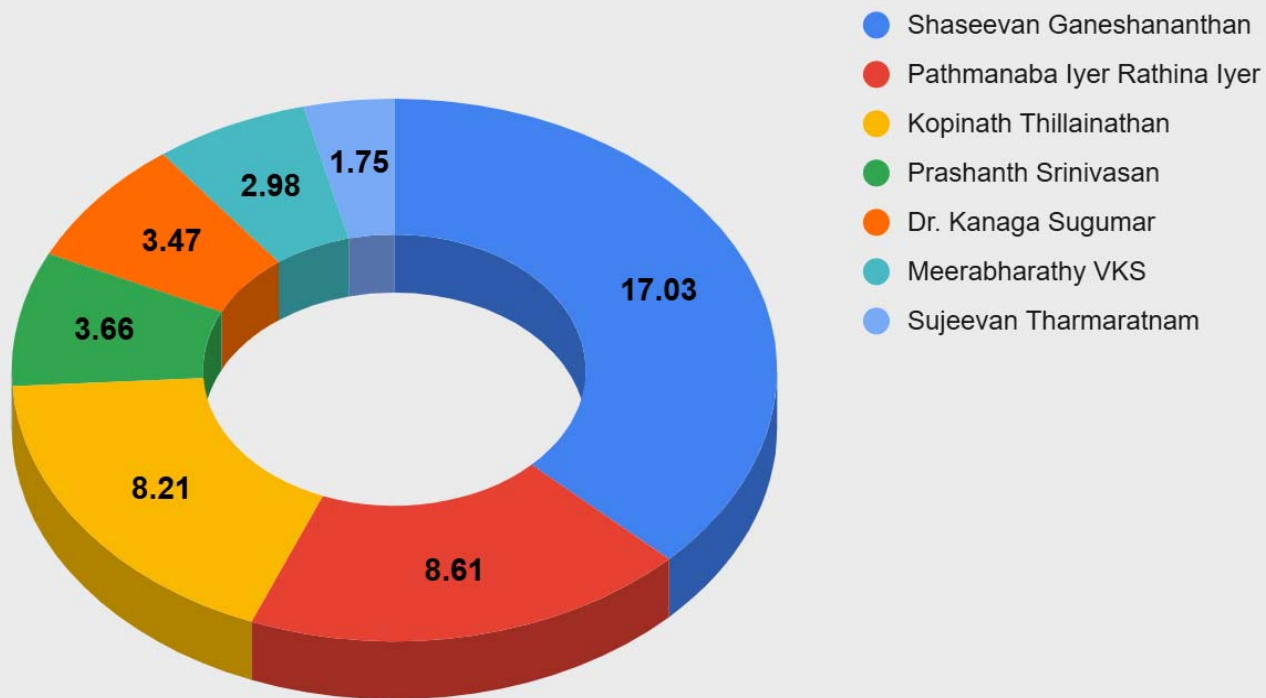
The Governance, Policy, and Strategy functions are primarily responsible for defining the Foundation's purpose, goals, and direction. Their role includes cultivating values, developing and implementing policies, formulating and communicating strategy, mobilizing and allocating resources, ensuring oversight, managing risks, and upholding accountability.

Number of Bricks & Annual Contribution	Regular Finance	Mentorship Process	Collaborate/ Partnership	Project Sales/ Project Owner	Active Volunteers / Mentors and Co Mentors	Sustainable Fundraisers
Number of total Bricks	67.13756	54	08	14	23	12
Annual Contribution 2024	45.19	40	08	14	24	25

Contribution of Governance Board Members in 2024

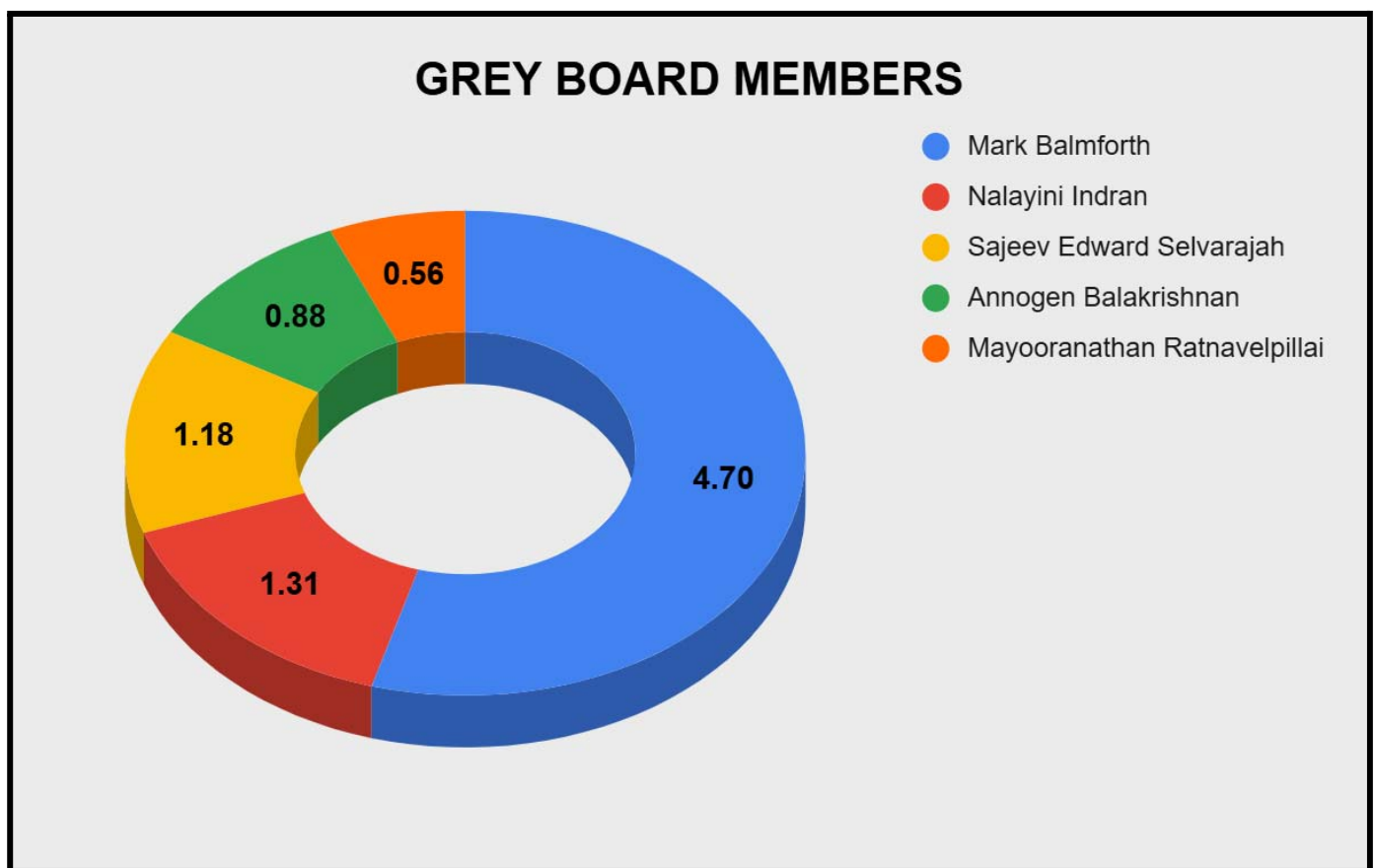
Governance Board Members	Percentage [In 100%]
Shaseevan Ganeshanathan	17.03
Pathmanaba Iyer Rathina Iyer	8.61
Kopinath Thillainathan	8.21
Prashanth Srinivasan	3.66
Kanaga Sugumar	3.47
Meerabharathy VKS	2.98
Sujeevan Tharmaratnam	1.75

GOVERNANCE BOARD MEMBERS



Contribution of Grey Board Members in 2024

Grey Board Members	Percentage [In 100%]
Mark Balmforth	4.70
Nalayini Indran	1.31
Sajeev Edward Selvarajah	1.18
Annogen Balakrishnan	0.88
Mayooranathan Ratnavelpillai	0.56



08. Key Achievements and Milestones – 2024

08.1 Projects Highlights

During 2024, a total of 19 projects were categorized as "Ongoing Projects." These include:

1. Noolaham Digital Library Collection Development 2024
2. Early Tamil Works of Sri Lanka
3. Vaasihasalai
4. Open Education Resources
5. Digitization of Donated Documents
6. Regional Documentation of Kilinochchi
7. Documentation of Documentation Process
8. Digitization at Jaffna Public Library
9. Regional Documentation of Trincomalee
10. Documentation of Indigenous people
11. Caste, land, and labour in Jaffna: a survey and digitization project in Sri Lankan agrarian history (EAP 1450)
12. Uthayan Library Collection
13. Sri Lankan Tamil Palm-Leaf Manuscript Library (EAP1551)
14. History of Medicine Collection in Northern Sri Lanka
15. Documentation of Panchangam
16. Regional Documentation of Ampara
17. Digitization of Human Rights Collections
18. Documentation of Jaffna Hindu Ladies' College
19. Documentation of Malay and Jawi Collection

Some projects faced temporary suspension due to ongoing financial challenges; however, they were later resumed with renewed commitment. Despite these difficulties, Noolaham Foundation further strengthened its capacity in 2024 to continue a wide range of documentation activities.

During the year, seven new projects were launched, focusing on the collection, preservation, and sharing of our language, literature, arts, culture, and knowledge systems. In addition, ten major projects were completed, marking a significant milestone in the Foundation's ongoing journey to document and safeguard cultural heritage.

08.1.1 Newly Started Projects

1. History of Medicine Collection in Northern Sri Lanka
2. Digitization of Panchangam
3. Documentation of Jaffna Hindu Ladies' College

1. History of Medicine Collection in Northern Sri Lanka

Jaffna, the northern provincial capital of Sri Lanka, is a center of Tamil culture with a rich heritage of customs, beliefs, and traditional medical practices. Its healthcare system combines indigenous and Western practices, reflecting centuries of cultural evolution and key contributions from historical figures who advanced medical services in the region. This project highlights the importance of the History of Medicine Collection in Northern Sri Lanka, raising awareness of past medical practices and the people who shaped them. By documenting this history, the project creates opportunities for research in medical history, sociology, and anthropology, and ensures that the contributions of scholars and practitioners are recognized and preserved without social discrimination or exclusion.

2. Digitization of Panchangam

This project aims to preserve and make accessible the rich cultural, scientific, and ritual heritage of Tamil Panchangams. It involves collecting Panchangams published each year from authors or their descendants with proper permissions, digitizing them, updating metadata, and posting them on the website, while returning the originals in a timely manner. The project also documents related materials, ensuring that this ancient knowledge is preserved, promoted for research, and made available for public understanding and cultural continuity.

3. Documentation of Jaffna Hindu Ladies' College

Jaffna Hindu Ladies' College, established in 1943 with 5 teachers and 110 students, has grown into a first-grade school with 84 teachers and 2,229 students. Over its long history, the college has contributed significantly to girls' education, with achievements in academics, arts, science, and extracurricular competitions. Recognizing this legacy, the project documents and preserves the school's records to safeguard its historical contributions, making them accessible for research, cultural understanding, and public awareness.

08.1.2 Completed Projects - 2024

1. Noolaham Digital Library Collection Development 2024
2. Regional Documentation of Kilinochchi
3. Documentation of Documentation Process
4. Regional Documentation of Trincomalee
5. Documentation of Indigenous people
6. Caste, land, and labour in Jaffna: a survey and digitization project in Sri Lankan agrarian history (EAP 1450)
7. Uthayan Library Collection
8. Regional Documentation of Ampara
9. Digitization of Human Rights Collections
10. Documentation of Malay and Jawi Collection

1. Noolaham Digital Library Collection Development 2024

This annual project undertaken by Noolaham Foundation focuses on documenting a wide range of materials in 2024. It includes documents donated or lent by writers and collectors, materials collected through earlier Noolaham projects, documents that were previously overlooked, additions to existing collections, and related multimedia resources. The project ensures these valuable resources are properly recorded, preserved, and made accessible for research and public use.

2. Regional Documentation of Kilinochchi

The Kilinochchi Regional project documented the district's history, local traditions, cultural and artistic practices, social structures, livelihoods, institutions such as schools and places of worship, economic developments, ecological conservation efforts, and the challenges faced by residents during the war. The project was completed within the allocated budget, achieving its planned objectives. Some documentation remains pending, and Phase II can be initiated with additional funding to complete and expand the regional collection.

3. Documentation of Documentation Process

This project documents the activities and services of Noolaham Foundation, including its work in documentation, digital preservation, digital library development, and research initiatives. By creating open-access records, the project preserves institutional knowledge, shares expertise with the public, and supports community-based practices. Documenting these activities also aids in training Noolaham affiliates, highlights the foundation's contributions to Tamil-speaking communities, and ensures that its programs and achievements are accessible for research, learning, and cultural engagement.

4. Regional Documentation of Trincomalee

This project focuses on documenting, digitizing, preserving, and sharing documents and other sources related to Trincomalee district, providing valuable support for educational, social, and historical research. By creating an online system, researchers can easily access primary resources and gain insights into the district's cultural, social, and economic history. The project was completed within the allocated budget, achieving its planned objectives. Some documentation remains pending, and Phase II can be initiated with additional funding to complete and expand the regional collection.

5. Documentation of Indigenous people

This project focuses on documenting the lesser-known traditions, cultural practices, and arts of indigenous peoples in Sri Lanka, with their permission and without any alteration. It captures their spontaneous lifestyles, knowledge systems, and ways of living in harmony with nature. By preserving these traditions, the project contributes to a deeper understanding of indigenous cultures and supports the development of new perspectives and methodologies in anthropological and ethnographic research.

6. Caste, land, and labour in Jaffna: a survey and digitization project in Sri Lankan agrarian history (EAP 1450)

The project surveys and digitizes privately held records related to caste, land ownership, and agricultural labour in Sri Lanka's Jaffna Peninsula, focusing on materials created before independence in 1948. It seeks manuscripts and printed materials documenting land management, labour contracts, and agricultural practices, providing insights into the social and economic history of the region. Digitization will begin with the manuscript collection of William Digby (1849–1904), a British author and political organizer who advocated for agrarian reform and social justice in South Asia. The project preserves these historical records for research, education, and public access.

7. Uthayan Library Collection

Documenting the Udayan Library is essential for preserving the history, culture, and social practices of Jaffna and the Northern Province, as reflected in its collection of books, journals, and publications issued from India and Sri Lanka. These materials provide insights into lifestyles, rituals, arts, customs, and literature, while also guiding new research directions and identifying previously unexplored areas. By digitizing and making these resources openly accessible, the project supports research, education, and public engagement, ensuring that the library's rich collection continues to benefit the community.

8. Regional Documentation of Ampara

The Ampara Regional Documentation Project focuses on preserving and digitizing the history, culture, social practices, and institutions of Ampara, a district inhabited by Sinhalese, Tamil, and Muslim communities. The project records local traditions, agricultural and livelihood practices, religious sites, schools, community organizations, and other cultural landmarks, providing a comprehensive understanding of the district's social and cultural landscape. By making these resources digitally accessible, the project supports research, education, and public engagement, ensuring that the district's rich heritage is documented and preserved for future generations.

9. Digitization of Human Rights Collection

Sri Lanka's recent history includes a prolonged civil conflict during which widespread human rights violations occurred, leaving significant social and historical impacts. Numerous books and articles have documented these violations, and digitizing these materials is crucial to preserve evidence, highlight past mistakes, and provide guidance for preventing similar injustices in the future. The project was completed within the allocated budget, achieving its planned objectives. Some documentation remains pending, and Phase II can be initiated with additional funding to complete and expand the collection.

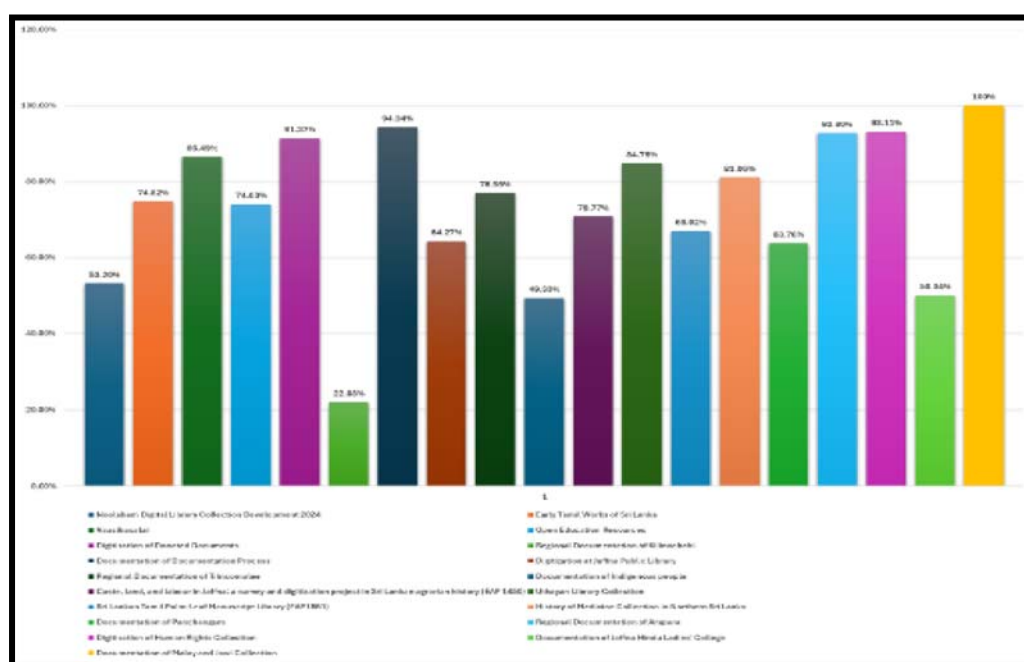
10. Documentation of Malay and Jawi Collection

Professor B.A. Hussanmaniya has been actively working to preserve the traditions and culture of the Malay community. His extensive collection includes photographs, handwritten documents, books, and paintings that showcase the uniqueness of the Malay people and the Yawi language. Preserving and digitizing these materials is essential not only for safeguarding the community's cultural and linguistic heritage but also for supporting research, education, and public understanding of the rich history and identity of the Malay community in Sri Lanka.

08.2 Directory level of Noolaham projects in 2024

This chart depicts how far each Noolaham Foundation Project has progressed toward the directory level in the year 2024.

No	Projects	2024 (Percentage)
1	Noolaham Digital Library Collection Development 2024	53.20%
2	Early Tamil Works of Sri Lanka	74.82 %
3	Vaasihasalai	86.49 %
4	Open Education Resources	74.03%
5	Digitization of Donated Documents	91.37%
6	Regional Documentation of Kilinochchi	22.08%
7	Documentation of Documentation Process	94.34%
8	Digitization at Jaffna Public Library	64.27 %
9	Regional Documentation of Trincomalee	76.98 %
10	Documentation of Indigenous people	49.33%
11	Caste, land, and labour in Jaffna: a survey and digitization project in Sri Lankan agrarian history (EAP 1450)	70.77%
12	Uthayan Library Collection	84.76%
13	Sri Lankan Tamil Palm-Leaf Manuscript Library (EAP1551)	66.92 %
14	History of Medicine Collection in Northern Sri Lanka	81.06%
15	Documentation of Panchangam	63.78%
16	Regional Documentation of Ampara	92.80 %
17	Digitization of Human Rights Collection	93.11%
18	Documentation of Jaffna Hindu Ladies' College	50.04%
19	Documentation of Malay and Jawi Collection	100 %



08.3 Digital Processing and Preservation

Digital Processing and Preservation is responsible for digitization, digital conversion, digital processing, and long-term digital preservation.

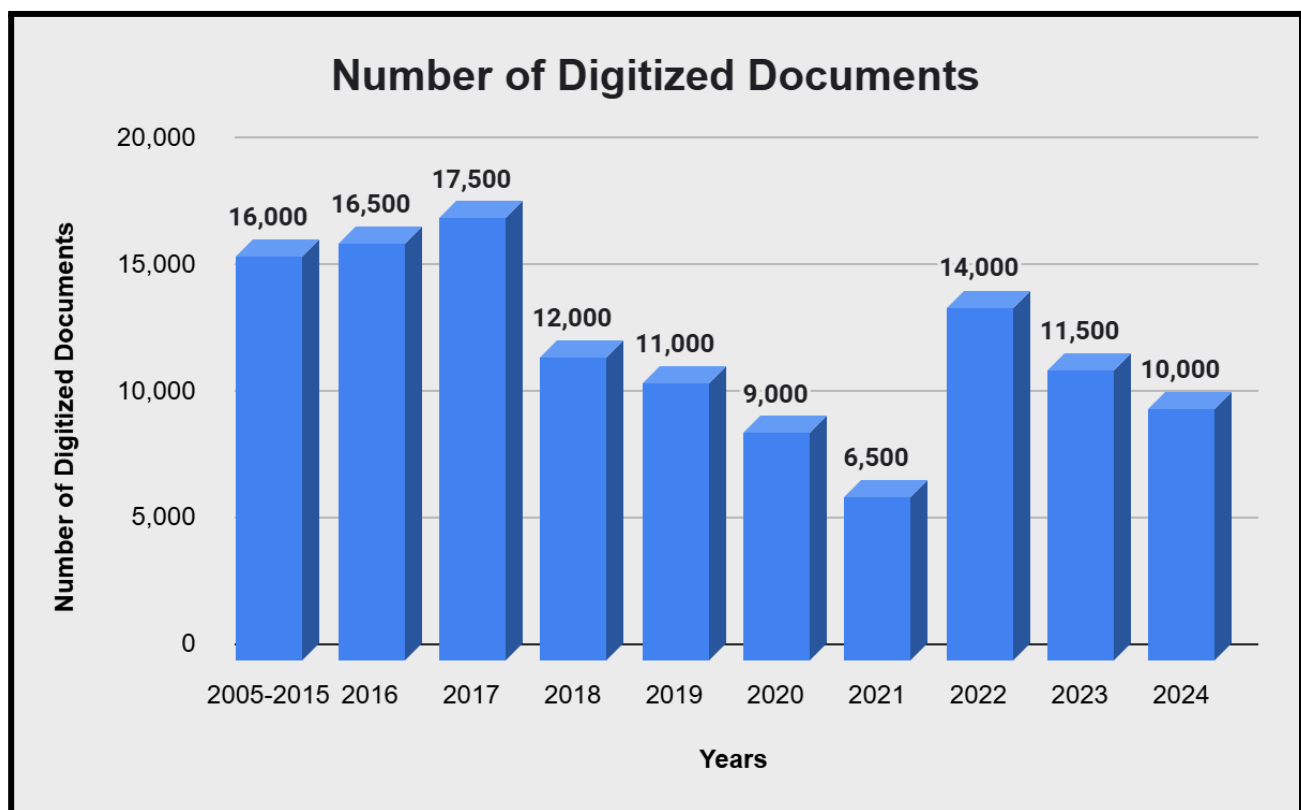
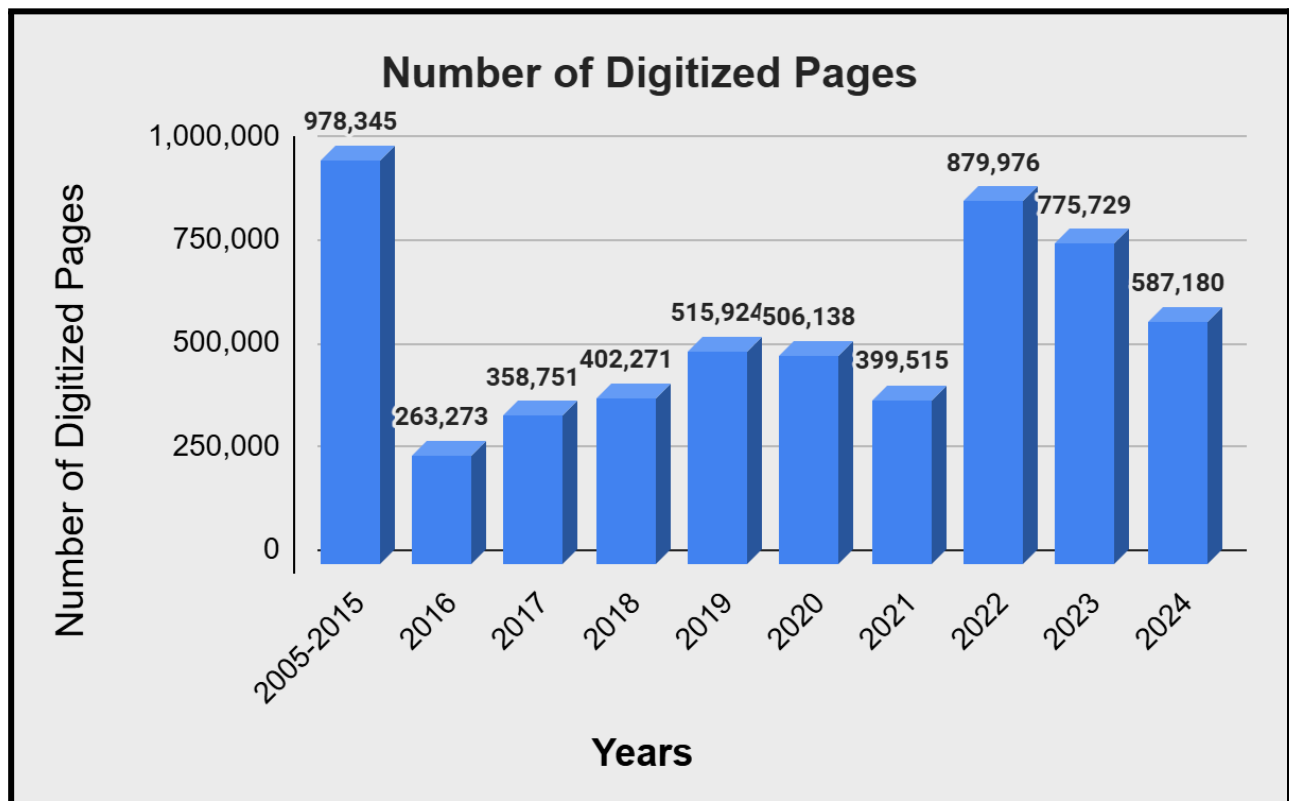
We are pleased to announce that, as of December 2024, of the 10,000 digitized documents, 6,040 are printed, while the remaining 3,960 are online PDFs. The printed collection comprises books, magazines, commemorative publications, Special Collections (including publications issued by schools, temples, departments, and other institutions), newspapers, and various other materials. By preserving these valuable documents, we ensure that knowledge is safeguarded and made widely accessible to all.

Years	Number of Digitized Pages	Number of Digitized Documents
2005 - 2015	978,345	16,000
2016	263,273	16,500
2017	358,751	17,500
2018	402,271	12,000
2019	515,924	11,000
2020	506,138	9,000
2021	399,515	6,500
2022	879,976	14,000
2023	775,729	11,500
2024	587,180	10,000

In 2023, 11,500 documents, comprising 775,729 digitized pages, were added to the Noolaham and Noolaham Multimedia websites.

Building on this progress, in 2024, 10,000 documents, totaling around 587,180 digitized pages, were added to our digital platforms, further expanding access to valuable knowledge and resources for users worldwide.

Number of Digitized Pages from 2005 to 2024



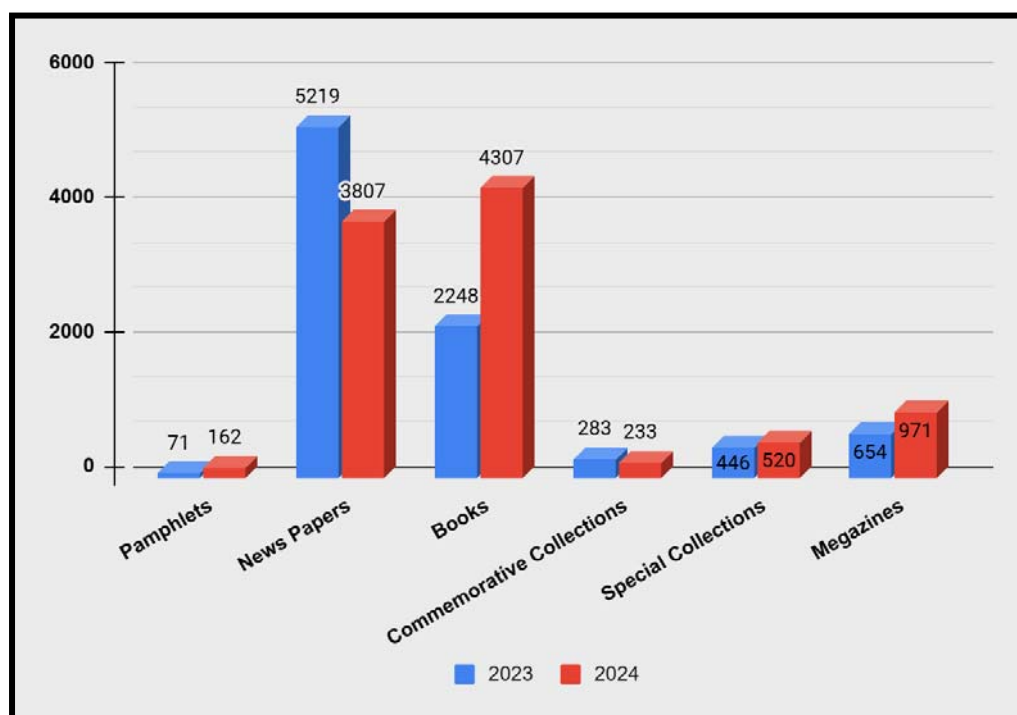
08.4 Digital Library, Archive and Information Services

The Noolaham Digital Library (noolaham.org), a free and open-access platform, represents the Foundation's core function. Its resources are available to anyone, anywhere in the world, at any time. The Digital Library provides a wide range of services, including digital library and archive management, rights management, user and reference services, physical repository management, and research support.

Out of 10000 total documents digitized in 2024, access permissions were granted to 7780 documents, giving an average approval rate of 77.8%, further improving knowledge availability for our users.

Number of documents uploaded in Noolaham website

Number of documents uploaded in Noolaham website	2023	2024
Pamphlets	71	162
News Papers	5219	3807
Books	2248	4307
Commemorative Collections	283	233
Special Collections	446	520
Megazines	654	971



08.5 Donated and Borrowed Documents

In 2024, the Noolaham Foundation saw a higher number of borrowed documents compared to donated documents.

A total of 2,952 documents were borrowed from the Jaffna Collection, Jaffna Office Collections, Batticaloa Collection, Uthayan Collection, and Upcountry Collection throughout the year. During the same period, 782 documents were generously donated, contributing to the continued growth of our collections.

Projects	Donated Documents	Borrowed Documents	Purchased Documents
Jaffna Collection	570	696	979
Jaffna Office Collections	-	479	-
Batticaloa Collection	-	300	-
Iqbal Collections	212	-	-
Uthayan Collection	-	981	-
Upcountry Collection	-	496	-
Total documents	782	2,952	979

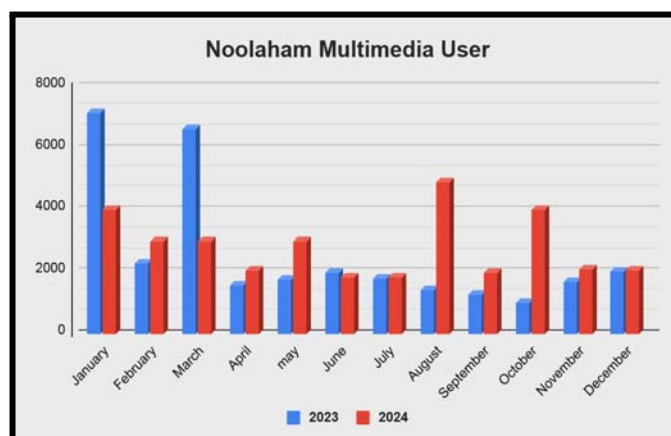
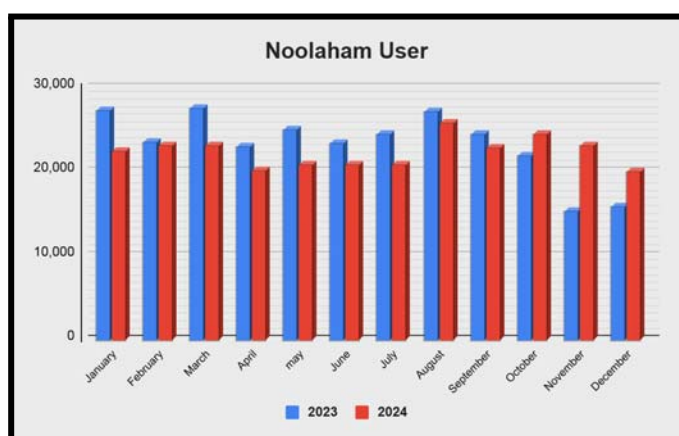
In 2024, a total of 8,148 documents were added to the Noolaham Multimedia website, with a special focus on educational resources. These additions included 2,471 educational resources, 478 digitized documents, 4,307 Kurungaala Aavanangal, 373 picture collections, 441 audio collections, and 78 oral histories.

During the year, 87 content contributors granted permission to publish a total of 99 documents, further enriching the platform and expanding access to a diverse range of knowledge and cultural resources.

08.6 Noolaham and Noolaham Multimedia websites statistics

Throughout 2024, the Noolaham Multimedia and Noolaham websites welcomed 33,953 and 267,501 new users, respectively. The Noolaham Multimedia website saw an increase of 3,082 users compared to the previous year. On average, most users spent between 4 to 9 minutes per visit, engaging with the wealth of knowledge and resources available on the platforms.

Months	Noolaham User		Noolaham Multimedia User	
	2023	2024	2023	2024
January	27,327	22,407	7,187	4,006
February	23,451	23,135	2306	3,003
March	27,573	23,135	6660	3,003
April	22,962	20,117	1591	2,075
may	25,026	20,838	1765	3,028
June	23,399	20,844	1989	1,854
July	24,424	20,844	1824	1,854
August	27,182	25,840	1450	4,910
September	24,408	22,786	1303	2,010
October	21,912	24,429	1043	4,009
November	15,222	23,115	1705	2,129
December	15,742	20,011	2048	2,072
Total	278,628	267,501	30,871	33,953



09. 2024 Year in Review

In 2024, the Noolaham Foundation made significant progress across multiple areas, including organizational management and operations, digital preservation and processing, digital library and archive services, technology infrastructure and development, finance, human resources and administration, communication, advocacy and public relations, programs and projects, and multimedia production and documentation.

This year, the Foundation initiated seven new projects and successfully completed ten, with the dedicated support of staff and collaborative organizations.

Volunteers played an important role in supporting the Foundation's work through activities such as:

- Providing technical assistance for virtual meetings
- Collecting educational materials
- Reviewing website content
- Collecting documents

The Foundation also celebrated its 19th anniversary on the traditional Tamil harvest festival of Thai Pongal.

Across the Digital Preservation, Human Resources, and Project teams, seven new employees were hired, whereas eight staff members exited during the year.

The Foundation supported 107 reference requests from students, teachers, lecturers, journalists, librarians, researchers, and other professionals, fulfilling each request according to the specific requirements of the users.

The Noolaham Foundation actively participated in numerous events, including the YGC Innovation Festival, Jaffna International Book Festival, Neduvuur Festival, Agricultural Exhibition, and the Eravur Book Festival. Staff engagement in these events helped raise awareness about the Foundation's initiatives and projects. Additionally, several online discussions were conducted, attracting enthusiastic participation from the community.

The Trincomalee Regional Documentation Project, initiated in 2023 to document the district's history, traditions, customs, arts, culture, social structures, and institutions, was temporarily suspended due to funding challenges. A discussion was held at the Trincomalee Noolaham Office on July 28, 2024, to explore ways to continue the project.

Finally, 13 students from the History Department of the University of Jaffna completed their internships with the Foundation, with an induction and farewell ceremony held to honor their contributions.

10. Finance, Human Resource & Administration

Monthly donors play a vital role in supporting the operations of the Noolaham Foundation. In 2024, total contributions amounted to 30,796,047.90 LKR, of which 28,233,229.65 LKR was spent across overhead, operational, capital, and project-specific needs. This financial report outlines the accounts and financial activities of the Noolaham Foundation for the period extending from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The Foundation's full, professionally audited financial reports are attached below for reference.

Audit Report

BBK PARTNERSHIP

Chartered Accountants

NOOLAHAM FOUNDATION
(COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
COLOMBO - 06.

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 2025.

*2nd Floor, No 188-192, Kandy Road, Vavuniya, Sri Lanka. Tel: 024 205 2400
Email: audit@bbkca.com*

Offices also at: Level 28, West Tower, World Trade Center, Colombo 01, Tel: 011 232 3443
No.149/2, K.K.S Road, Jaffna, Tel: 021 221 6944



Mrs. Rahini K. FCA, ACCA(UK), Bsc. Est Mgt & Val (SpI)
Mr. N. Jeyamahendran FCA, FCMA

2nd Floor,
No 188-192
Kandy Road,
Vavuniya
Tel: 024 205 2400,
Email: audit@bbkca.com
jeybbksl@gmail.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF NOOLAHAM FOUNDATION (COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE).

Report on the audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Noolaham Foundation (Company Limited by Guarantee), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2025, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flow for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the company give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at March 31, 2025 and of its financial performance and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards for Small and Medium - Sized Entities (SLFRS for SMES).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by CA Sri Lanka (Code of Ethics) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standard for Small and Medium Sized Entities (SLFRS for SMEs), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Offices also at : Colombo - Level 28, West Tower, World Trade Center, Colombo - 01, Tel 011 232 3443
Jaffna - No.149/2, K.K.S Road, Jaffna, Tel 021 221 6944



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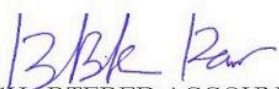
As part of an audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude an appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether any material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by section 163 (2) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007, we have obtained all the information and explanations that were required for the audit and, as far as appears from our examination, proper accounting records have been kept by the Company.


CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.
BBK PARTNERSHIP.
COLOMBO.
10th FEBRUARY 2026.



Offices also at : Colombo - Level 28, West Tower, World Trade Center, Colombo - 01, Tel 011 232 3443
Jaffna - No.149/2, K.K.S Road, Jaffna, Tel 021 221 6944

NOOLAHAM FOUNDATION (COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
No.07, 57th Lane, Colombo - 06

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2025.

	<i>Note</i>	<i>31.03.2025</i> <i>Rs.</i>	<i>31.03.2024</i> <i>Rs.</i>
ASSETS			
Non Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	4	1,517,289.26	2,623,053.42
Total Non Current Assets		1,517,289.26	2,623,053.42
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5	11,950,775.86	9,381,622.32
Total Current Assets		11,950,775.86	9,381,622.32
Total Assets		13,468,065.12	12,004,675.74
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
Funds			
Accumulated Funds		792,056.77	895,639.53
Restricted Funds		11,652,104.46	10,204,680.09
Total Funds		12,444,161.23	11,100,319.62
Current Liabilities			
Accrued Expenses	6	285,000.00	257,500.00
Provision For Taxation	7	738,903.89	646,856.12
Total Current Liabilities		1,023,903.89	904,356.12
Total Funds and Liabilities		13,468,065.12	12,004,675.74

The Accounting Policies and Notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Financial Statements are in compliance with the requirements of the Companies Act No.07 of 2007.

J. Sath

Finance Officer

Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and presentation of these Financial Statements.

Approved and Signed for and on behalf of the Committee of Management

R. Pathmanaba Iyer

Director



Gaseera

Director

11. Noolaham Community 2024

11.1 Board Members

1. Shaseevan Ganeshanathan
2. Pathmanaba Iyer Rathina Iyer
3. Kopinath Thillainathan
4. Sujeevan Tharmaratnam
5. Dr. Kanaga Sugumar
6. Prashanth Srinivasan
7. Meerabharathy VKS

11.2 Grey Board Members

1. Mark Balmforth
2. Mayooranathan Ratnavelpillai
3. Annogen Balakrishnan
4. Nalayini Indran
5. Sajeev Edward Selvarajah

11.3 Staffs

Management Team

1. Ransuthamalar Nanthakumar - Chief Executive Officer (From - 26.09.2020)
2. Shalini Jathees - Finance, Human Resource and Admin Officer (From - 01.03.2023)
3. Shathishni Mathiyalakan - Program and Project Sector Lead (From 01.08.2023)
4. Meuriy Gajendran - Digital Preservation Manager (From - 05.11.2014)
5. Loashini Thiruchendooran, Advocacy, Communication and Public Relation - Sector Lead (From - 01.11.2021)
6. Pugalini Piriyalaxsan - Manager - Digital Library and Archive (From - 10.08.2020)

Multimedia Production and Documentation Team

1. Sooriyakumar Sooriyapathy - Sector Lead - Multimedia Production and Documentation (From - 16.06.2022)

FINANCE, HUMAN RESOURCE & ADMINISTRATION

1. Rajini Kantharoopan - Resource Mobilization Officer (Left 30.03.2024)

Program Team

1. Pilogini Thayaruban- Project Officer - (From - 01.09.2014)
2. Velusamy Naresh - Field Researcher (From 05.07.2023)
3. Kamalanathan Pathinathan - Field Researcher - (Left 28.02.2024)
4. Sivakumaran Hayakirivan - Field Researcher - (Left 31.12.2024)
5. Jeyamathy Jeyachandra - Project Officer (From - 24.04.2023)
6. Arulappu Jesington Lambert - Field Researcher (Left 26.04.2024)
7. Nagarasa Harishanth - Field Researcher (Left 03.10.2024)
8. Ushalini Sabanantham - Field Researcher (From - 01.01.2024)
9. Arasarathinam Anojan- Field Researcher (From - 10.01.2024)
10. Uthayakumar Rajkumar - Field Researcher (Left 21.02.2024)
11. Rasarathinam Muhunthavasan - Field Researcher (From - 03.06.2024)
12. Thavarasa Aitheepan - Part Time Field Researcher (Left 30.03.2023)
13. Ramanathan Lepanthan - Part Time Field Researcher (From 25.11.2023)
14. Kanagalingam Stephen - Project Manager - Slave Registry (Left 31.03.2024)
15. Hibakaran Ramakirushnan - Part Time Field Researcher (Left 31.03.2024)
16. Rupesh Vinayagamoorthy - Part Time Field Researcher (Left 31.03.2024)
17. Enthireswaran Rajani - Part Time Field Researcher (Left 31.03.2024)

Digital Library and Archive Team

1. Keerthika Anujan - Digital Library Metadata Officer (From - 26.05.2016)
2. Ajita Krishnakumar, Digital Library Metadata Officer (Left 30.09.2024)
3. Mathuranky Vinagayamoorthy - Digital Library Officer (From - 01.07.2020)
4. Abarnanky Senthitkumaran, Digital Library Officer-Metadata (From - 01.02.2022)
5. Gowsika Raveendran - Digital Library Metadata Officer (From 06.04.2023)
6. Thinuza Kokalinathan - Digital Library Metadata Officer - EAP (From 20.11.2023)
7. Panchadcharam John Dilaxshan - Digital Library Metadata Officer - EAP (From 20.11.2023)
8. Thanuya Sivagnanam - Digital Library Metadata Officer (From 01.06.2023)

Digital Preservation and Processing Team

1. Jensiya Kunasegaram - Backup and Recovery Officer (From - 17.03.2017)
2. Jeyamary Antony - Digital Library Officer-Quality Assurance (From - 30.06.2018)
3. Jeyarose Francis Jesurasa - Digital Library Officer-Quality Assurance (Left 30.10.2024)
4. Janani Ehamparam - Digital Preservation Officer (From - 18.05.2020)
5. Karthika Kunasegaran - Digital Preservation Officer (From - 10.08.2022)
6. Vigneswaran Kuruparan- Digital Preservation Officer (From - 16.03.2022)
7. Rajitha Rajakumar - Digital Preservation Officer (From - 16.03.2022)
8. Mithuna Kirushnaraja - Digital Preservation Officer (From 02.05.2023)
9. Lavanya Jeyaraththinam - Digital Preservation Officer (Left 30.07.2024)
10. Piyasiri Umanthi Tharushika - Digital Preservation Officer (From 03.08.2023)
11. Nakenthiran Jency - Digital Preservation Officer (From 20.11.2023)
12. Maheswaran Madushan - Digital Preservation Officer (From - 19.02.2024)
13. Jensika Varatharajan - Digital Preservation Officer (Left - 31.12.2024)

11.4 Content Contributors

The Noolaham Foundation relies on the generous support of authors, publishers, photographers, videographers, scholars, librarians, archivists, and the public to provide content, sources, and information for its projects. We respectfully invite all content creators to collaborate with us in building the largest digital Tamil repository in the world.

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Nadarajah Selvajothy (Jothy Iya) | • Kathiravelippillai Thiruchchelvam
(Kathir.Thiruchchelvam) |
| • Sangarapillai Manoharan | • Poonkothai Sriranjana (Kala
Sriranjana) |
| • Mohaideen Abdul Anas (Kappiyakathiron,
Munaivar) | • Sivakamy Ambalavanar (Siva) |
| • Siththi Rafeeka Fais | • Zainul Afdeen Abdul Kabbar |
| • Kanagasooriyam Yoganathan (Sampurdasan) | • Mahalingam Pathmanaban |
| • Nagamani Vinayakamoorthi | • Sithambaranatha Iyer Jekatheswara
Sarma |
| • Muhammad Casim Muhammad Khalid | • VenkadesaIyer RagunathaIyer |
| • Vairamuthu Ganesan | • Subramaniam Arasarathinam |
| • Velayuthar Vivekananthan | • Rasalingam Mangaleswaran |
| • Valliammai Subramaniam (founder of K. A.
Subramaniam Sathiamanai Library) | • Navartnam Giritharan |
| • Chelvadurai Shanmugabaskaran (Inuvilan
Chicago Bhaskar) | • Dr. B. A. Hussainmiya |
| • George Jestin | • Navarathinam Parameshvaran |

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- Subramaniam Srikumaran (Iyalvaanan)
- Murukaiya Sathees
- Muhammathu Marzook Pathima Sumaiya
- Abdul Rahman Abdul Jameel
- Murugesu Sadatcharan
- Pakkiyarasa Sayanandan
- Shabeena Somasuntharam
- R. Vinothkathan
- Joseph Valentine Rajkumar
- Thampirasa Ganesamurthy
- Jenitha Piratheepan (Kavinila, Kaviyannai)
- Ponnaiya Ganesan (Kallooran)
- Vairamuthu Sunthararajah
- Thangarasa Malarchselvan
- Karthigesu Indrapala
- Abdul Kapoor Rabiuddin (Dean Kapoor)
- Sivapathasundaram Sudhakaran (Neelaiyur Sudha)
- Sithambarapillai Ambalavanapillai Suresh (Akani Suresh)
- A. L. Thurairatnam (Logan)
- Jamaldeen Firoskhan (Kinniya J. Firoskhan)
- Sithy Safeena Baithullah (Kinniya Safeena)
- Somasunderam Thevarasa
- Erambamoorthy Elango
- M. A. Mahira
- Razeed Fathima Mujamala (Vaanam Paadi)
- Chinnathamby Ramanathan (Kaaraitheevan)
- Muhammad Musha Vijili (Maruthamunai Vijili)
- Nadarajah Kandasamy, Navaratnam Giritharan
- V. Raamar (Father of Raamar Mohan)
- Ignasious Y Selliah (Manoranjana Selliah)
- Kanesha Iyer Sounthararajan
- V. Vijayakumaran, S. Laleesan
- Dhayananthan Jeyabala
- Arumugam Selvanayagam
- Selvarasa Mohanasundaram
- Indrasooriyabramachandran Asok
- Veluppillai Sanmuganathan (Mukilvannan)
- Kanthavanam Koneshwaran
- Udumalevai Mohamad Atheek
- M. A. Mohamad Rameez (Rameez Abdulla)
- Pushpalatha Loganathan (Malaraa)
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- Avvai Vickneaswaran
- Sathyendran Jegatheesan Singam
- Selvam Kannathasan
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- Thiyagarajasarma Mayoorakiri
- Bharati Rajanayagam
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- Thiruchelvam Thavaratnam
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- Nandana Weerarathne (Nandiweera)
- Sivakumar Subramaniyam
- Varatharajan Udaiyappa Manickam (Uma Varatharajan)
- R. M. Nawshad (Theeran)
- Palamunai Farook
- Aliyar Peer Mohamed

- Victor John Figurado
- A. L. Muhamad Rifaz (Alari)
- S. Nissanthan (Thesiyam Newspaper)

11.5 Source Contributors

Personal collections of individuals, including books, magazines, monographs, and other documents, hold immense cultural and historical value in our society. Many such collections have been partially or fully entrusted to the Noolaham Foundation for digitization. In 2024, the details of our source contributors are provided below.

Source Contributor (Personal)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
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| • Kiruthika Vijayakumar | • Murugesu Thayaparan | • Perambalam Kanagarathinam |
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| • P.Joysi | • Mahalingam Pathmanaban | • Kathir Thiruchelvam |
| • S.Balasunaram | • B. A. Hussainmiya | • Sanmugalingam Sajeelan |
| • Muththukrishna Sarvananthan | • Sinaapoddi Raman Thanapalasingham | • K.Arasaratnam |
| • Sooriyapiramachandran Ashok | • Shaseevan Ganesananthan | • S.Thanujan |
| • S.Thandayuthapani | • Kanagalingam Sugumar | • Jeyarajah Arusha |
| • R.Mayooranathan | • Sivakurunathan Kesavan | • A.L.M.Musthak |
| • Ransuthamalar Nanthakumar | • Rev. Fr. Jerad Svarimuttu | • Arasaratnam, Achuthan |
| • P. Sayananthan | • Pugalini Piriyalaxsan | • Senthikumar Abarnanky |
| • T. Kopalakrishnan (Senkathiron) | • Kadampamalar Vimalaraja | • Singaravelu |
| • Mahalingam Dilani | • S.T. Thas | • Thamndayuthapani |
| • Sivakumaran Hayakirivan | • N. Sanathanan | • P.Suthakar |
| | • M.A.Maahera | • R.Fresley |
| | • Athanas Jesurasa | • T.Pirabakaran |
| | • Varnakulasingam Muralitharan | • Sujevan Tharmarathnam |
| | | • Sivahami Ambalawanar |

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- Thiruchenduran
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- A.Kuganeswaralinkam
- Thillainathan Kopinath
- Yohanathan Rajeswar
- Muralitharan, Nadarajah
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- Ratnasabapathy Mahendran
- T. Gnanasekaran
- Vairamthu Sivarajah
- Malaiyarasi Sivarajah
- T. Raveendran
- Akani Suresh
- Navaratnam Giritharan
- Nivetha Uthayarajan
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- Bhawany Thambirajah
- Assis. M. Bais Thevakie
- Karunakaran
- Chandravathana Selvakumaran
- Paramanantham Subramaniam
- Suthakaran Selladurai
- S. Jegadheesan
- Tamil Kennadi
- Rexi Anton
- Vivekananthan Velayuthar
- Rev.S.Daklas Milton Logu
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- Kanagasooriyan yohanantham
- T.Thithusan
- M. Thillainathan
- Sivakamy Ambalavanar
- Sivabalu Thankarasa
- Chandragowri Sivapalan
- Chris Nallaratnam
- Thangaraja Jeevaraj
- Pakkiyarasa Sayanandan
- Selvarajah Suthakaran
- Gnanam Balachandran
- Mashura Suhuruddin
- S. Santhosan
- S. Laleesan
- Mohan
- P. Raneesh
- Paul Robinson
- T. Raveendran
- Thananchayan Ramanathan

Source Contributor (Institution)

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- Nallur Public Library
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- Field Work Center Thondamanaru - FWC
- Trincomalee Town & Gravets Pradeshiya Sabha Uppuveli
- Earlalai Public Library
- Kalmunai Public Library
- National Digital Library
- Batticalo Arasadi Public Library
- St. Francis Seminary Church
- Columbuthurai
- Noolaham Foundation
- Uthayan Library
- Jaffna Public Library
- Murasu E-Newspaper
- Kalaikadhir Viber Group
- Vilambaram official web page
- Thumi Website
- Thaiveedu Website
- Nimirvu Website

- Ezhuna Web page
- Thennadu
- Department of Agriculture
- Th/ Uvarmalai Vivekananda College
- Thalam
- Paathukavalan Website
- Supeedsam Website
- Jaffna Monitor Whatsapp Group
- East View Global Press Archives
- Muthamizhan Kalasam Website
- Ethiroli Website
- Jaffna National College of Education
- People Magazine Website
- Uthayam Website
- Thondan Magazine
- Thirumalaitheepam Whatsapp Group

11.6 Volunteers

The Noolaham Foundation began as a volunteer-based project organization and has grown with the invaluable support of hundreds of volunteers. While we employ staff across various functions, most activities are spearheaded by volunteers. Volunteers contribute to advocacy, communication, technology, and program teams, playing a crucial role in implementing projects outlined in Roadmap 2024.

Volunteers from different countries also support the Foundation through its regional chapters, helping to expand our reach and impact. In 2024, the details of our dedicated volunteers and contributors are provided below.

- Lakshika Murugan
- Mohanraj Danushan
- Jithusha Anton Jude
- Dilakshika suthessanthan
- Abishajini Amuthalingam
- Ravichandran Soban
- Gamsajini Gobalakrishnan
- Abinaya Sivakumar
- Guru Sarangan Mahendhirarajah
- Keshihan Ilamuruganathan
- Sathiyamoorthy Thanushan
- Balasundaram Kajalakshan

11.7 Chapters

The Global Noolaham Chapters are organizations or volunteer teams operating in various countries. These groups contribute by scanning documents, building Noolaham-supportive communities in their regions, conducting outreach activities, and providing other information collection services. Currently, the officially registered chapters include: Noolaham Canada, Noolaham United Kingdom, Noolaham Norway and Noolaham Australia. There are also plans to establish additional chapters in other countries in the near future. In addition, Friends of Noolaham is a support network comprising individuals and organizations from the Tamil diaspora and global Tamil communities. This network actively supports the objectives and daily operations of the Noolaham Foundation

01. UK Chapter

1. Pathmanaba Iyer Rathina Iyer
2. Shaseevan Ganeshananthan
3. Bavaharan Vanniyasingam
4. Mahendran Masilamani
5. Suganthan Noel Thavachelvan
6. Annogen Balakrishnan
7. Sivarathan Vairavanathan
8. Mayuran Senthilnathan
9. Kugaruban Ganesalingam
10. Visitharan Praisoody
11. Vajeevan Ganeshananthan
12. Kanaga Sugumar
13. Thanapriyan Tharmaraja

02. Canada Chapter

1. Meerabharathy VKS
2. SK Vickeneaswaran
3. Vinothan Mahalingam
4. Vaheesan Selvarajah
5. Thirukkumaran Thirugnanasambanthar
6. Ravi Ponnampalam

03. Australia Chapter

1. Kopinath Thillainathan
2. Thillakan Sabanayagam
3. Kohulan Thillainathan

04. Norway Chapter

1. Sanjayan Selvamanickam
2. Shanthan Navaratnam
3. Elanchelian Nadarajah

05. USA Chapter

1. Aingaran Kathirkamar
2. Piratheepan Paramanathan
3. Poorani Shanthakumar
4. Prashanth Srinivasan
5. Ramanitharan Kandiah

06. Singapore Chapter

1. Ananthan Yoganathan
2. Mugundan Seevaratnam
3. Thanushan Kanagarajah
4. Vijayaratnam Vaheesan
5. Thangavel Rahunanthanan

07. Sri Lanka Chapter

1. Sajeev Edward Selvarajah
2. Sujeevan Tharmaratnam

08. Europe Chapter

1. Jeyanthi Thalayasingam
2. Vivekanantha Poopalapillai (Babu)
3. Gunarathenam Gopiramanan

09. Middle East Chapter

1. Kuruparan Manikkavasakar

12. Get Involved

The Noolaham Foundation is a volunteer-led and driven non-profit institution. It relies on the generous support of contributors like you to sustain and expand its activities. We offer a variety of ways for anyone who shares our vision and objectives to contribute, both in small and large ways.

1. Contribute Content

The Foundation depends on authors, publishers, photographers, videographers, scholars, librarians, archivists, and the public to provide content, sources, and information for our projects. We warmly invite all content creators to join us in building the largest digital Tamil repository in the world.

2. Contribute Expertise

Our goal is to become a leading institution in digital archiving worldwide. We welcome experts from fields such as digitization, information technology, software development, library and information sciences, and archiving science to provide guidance on standards, methodologies, and technologies.

3. Contribute Funding

As a non-profit organization, the Foundation relies on its network of donors to support ongoing activities and ensure sustainability. Contributions can include small recurring donations, project-specific funding, support for the Noolaham Foundation Endowment, or the provision of equipment and facilities.

13. Events

13.1 Noolaham Foundation's Thai Pongal Celebration and 19th Anniversary

The Noolaham Foundation celebrated two significant events on Monday, January 15, 2024: the traditional Tamil harvest festival, Thai Pongal, and the 19th Anniversary of the Foundation. The celebrations were held at both the Head Office in Somasundaram Lane, Chundukuli, Jaffna and the Regional Office at the Arasady Library Building, Batticaloa.

Marking the completion of 19 years of service, a special discussion was conducted on the Foundation's achievements and future plans. This session was also broadcast virtually via Zoom to accommodate participants unable to attend in person. Governance Board members, staff, volunteers, and well-wishers actively participated, making the occasion truly memorable.



13.2 Internship Introductory Event for Students of the Department of History, University of Jaffna - 2024

The Internship Introductory Event for students of the Department of History, Faculty of Arts, University of Jaffna was held on Wednesday, 12 June 2024, at 9:30 AM at the Noolaham Foundation in Chundikuzhi. The event was attended by Mrs. Chandini Arulanandam (Head of the Department of History and Senior Lecturer, University of Jaffna), 13 history students, the Chief Executive Officer of the Noolaham Foundation, and Noolaham staff.

The program included an overview of the Foundation, comments from the Head of the Department, a speech by the CEO, introductions of the student interns, an explanation of the Foundation's sectoral activities, and an interactive discussion. Following the event, students visited each sector to observe ongoing activities and receive detailed explanations. All participants officially joined the Noolaham Foundation as interns starting Tuesday, 18 June 2024.

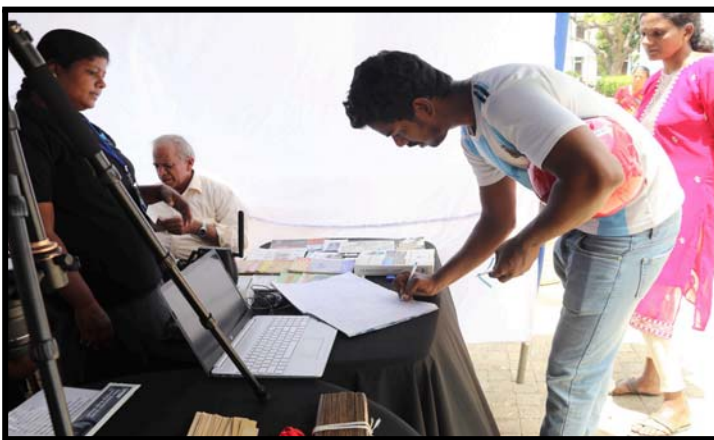


13.3 YGC Innovation Festival 2024.

The Noolaham Foundation participated in the YGC Innovation Festival, held at the Jaffna Cultural Center from August 1 to 4, 2024, starting at 9:00 AM each day. This grand celebration of innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship provided a platform to showcase how the Foundation incorporates innovation and technology into its documentation work.

Noolaham staff represented the Foundation at the event, displaying documents and providing visitors with detailed explanations about the library and its activities. Volunteers also presented documents for documentation purposes. On the first day, a large number of school students attended and were introduced to the Open Educational Resources project. The school Noolaham website (www.noolaham.school) was displayed, with library staff demonstrating how to access its resources.

Over the following days, staff provided explanations of the Foundation's projects and activities, including the digitization and preservation of manuscripts under the 'Eelam Manuscript Library' project, presenting them in a clear and accessible manner for all attendees.



13.4 Discussion on Strengthening Trincomalee Regional Documentation

The Trincomalee Regional Documentation Project, part of the Noolaham Foundation's regional documentation initiative, was launched in 2023 to document the history, traditions, customs, arts, culture, social structures, and institutions of the district. Due to funding challenges, the project was temporarily suspended. To address its continuity, a discussion was held at the Trincomalee Noolaham Office on Sunday, 28 July 2024, at 10:00 AM.

Activists from the Trincomalee region attended the event and shared suggestions for advancing the project. The session began with a presentation by Noolaham Field Researcher Karthi Hayan, detailing the project's current status, documented materials, and outstanding requirements. This was followed by an explanation from Ranjuthamalar Nanthakumar, CEO of the Noolaham Foundation, regarding the financial challenges in continuing the project. The discussion concluded with participants sharing their views and recommendations for moving the initiative forward.



13.5 Jaffna International Book Festival - 2024

The Noolaham Foundation participated in the 2024 Jaffna International Book Festival, held at the Jaffna Cultural Center on 9–11 August 2024 from 10:00 AM. The Foundation's showroom displayed rare documents, including magazines, books, newspapers, and manuscripts dating back to the 1900s. The event was attended by a diverse audience of school students, writers, researchers, and readers from across Sri Lanka—including Jaffna, Colombo, Vavuniya, Mullaitivu, Kurunegala, and Puttalam—as well as international visitors from France, Canada, and Norway. Many attendees were already familiar with the Library and its website (www.noolaham.org).

Noolaham staff provided clear explanations about the organization's activities and projects. Notably, written permissions were obtained directly from copyright holders, including Kannadasan Selvam, Sathyanandran J., Puvasrinameiyazhagan, Oledin Mohamed Mafaz, Mayuragiri T., Bharathi Rajanayakam, Alvin Edwin Peiris, and Thiruchelvam Thavarathnam, allowing their works to be published on the Noolaham website. Additional documents for digitization were also collected.

With the support of Noolaham volunteers, the book festival served as an important platform to secure copyright permissions and engage directly with the public. Attendees provided feedback and suggestions, including expanding the Noolaham School resources to enhance educational activities and adding more information to the website, reflecting the growing engagement and interest of the community.



13.6 Farewell Ceremony for the Internship Students of the Department of History, University of Jaffna - 2024

The farewell ceremony for the Internship Students of the Department of History, Faculty of Arts, University of Jaffna was held on Monday, 12 August 2024, at 2:30 PM at the Noolaham Foundation office in Chundikuzhi, Jaffna. The event was attended by Senior Lecturer Mrs. Chandini Arulanandam (Head of the Department of History, University of Jaffna), 13 history students, the Chief Executive Officer of the Noolaham Foundation, sector heads, and Noolaham staff.

The program began with feedback from the interns on their training experience, followed by speeches from the Head of the Department of History and the CEO of the Noolaham Foundation. A discussion with sector heads highlighted the interns' achievements and commitment during their two-month training period.

As a token of appreciation, interns were presented with mementos by the Noolaham Foundation. In recognition of the Department's support, Mrs. Chandini Arulanandam also received a memento. Additionally, interns received certificates of appreciation acknowledging their training period. The event concluded with a vote of thanks, celebrating the successful completion of the internship program.



13.7 Neduvuur Festival -2024

With the aim of uniting the Neduntheevu community worldwide and promoting regional development and local livelihoods, the Neduntheevu Festival was held from 4–10 August 2024 under the theme “Let’s go back to our hometown.” Noolaham Foundation staff participated on 7 August, sharing a handbook about the Foundation and explaining its activities to festival attendees. The event also provided an opportunity for direct engagement with writers and to seek support for the documentation process.

During the festival, Dr. Deron, the doctor in charge of Neduntheevu Hospital and a resource person at the herbal exhibition, offered suggestions regarding the identification of manuscripts. Some attendees with medical manuscripts provided information, and Dr. Deron committed to identifying new manuscripts at the Northern Provincial Indigenous Medicine Department that had not yet been digitized by Noolaham.

The festival also facilitated the documentation of the Dutch Hospital in Neduntheevu, originally built for medical needs during Dutch rule, later used as an administrative center under the British, and now a tourist site. This work is part of Noolaham’s “North Sri Lanka Medical History Documentation” project, focused on preserving endangered medical history documents.

Additionally, the Noolaham team visited Neduntheevu Maha Vidyalaya, where Digital Preservation and Operations Manager Miuri Gajendran met with the Principal, who agreed to support the uploading of the school’s educational documents to the Noolaham School website (www.noolaham.school).

Overall, the festival served as an important platform to raise community awareness about the Noolaham Foundation, showcase its activities, and receive valuable documentation contributions from the local community.



13.8 Agricultural Exhibition 2024

The Noolaham Foundation participated in the Agricultural Exhibition 2024, held at the Tirunelveli District Agricultural Training Center from 2–4 October 2024, between 9:30 AM and 5:00 PM. The event attracted a large number of social activists and school students, many of whom visited the Noolaham Foundation's showroom. The showroom displayed documents related to agriculture that have been documented by the Foundation, and staff provided clear explanations about the Foundation's activities to ensure accessibility for all attendees.

Notably, manuscripts related to agriculture and herbal knowledge were showcased. Many visitors, already familiar with the Noolaham Foundation, sought additional information and offered feedback, suggesting enhancements for the website. Attendees highlighted that the website's collection of Tamil books is a valuable resource, particularly for students seeking to expand their knowledge.

The exhibition served as an effective platform to raise community awareness about the Noolaham Foundation and its documentation efforts, as well as to introduce school students to the Noolaham School (www.noolaham.school) and its educational resources.



13.9 Eravur Book Festival - 2024

The Eravur Book Festival, organized by the Eravur Reading Circle and the Eravur City Divisional Secretariat, was held from 30 October to 3 November 2024 at the Eravur City Divisional Secretariat. The Batticaloa Regional Office staff of the Noolaham Foundation set up a showroom to raise awareness about the Foundation. The festival attracted a diverse audience, including school students, writers, researchers, and readers, and featured activities such as book sales, painting displays, book introductions, musical performances, and art events.

The Noolaham showroom displayed rare documents and Foundation publications, and staff provided clear explanations of the Foundation's activities and projects. On the fourth day of the festival at 4:45 PM, Mrs. Shatishni Mathiyazhagan, sector lead of Projects and Programs, delivered an introductory speech about the Noolaham Foundation.

The event served as an effective platform to raise community awareness about Noolaham's documentation activities and to introduce school students, in particular, to the Noolaham School.



13.10 Noolaham Foundation year-end gathering 2024

The contribution of staff has been integral to the achievements of the Noolaham Foundation. To foster mutual understanding and camaraderie among team members, the Foundation held its year-end staff gathering on Monday, 31 December 2024, in Jaffna and Batticaloa. A total of 28 library staff from both locations participated, celebrating the year's accomplishments and strengthening team spirit.



14. Strategic Outlook for 2025

The new Noolaham Foundation team looks forward to rebuilding connections with the community and welcoming both new and returning members in 2025. We aim to work flexibly while gradually returning to the office, fostering a vibrant and welcoming campus environment.

The next phase of the Foundation's strategic planning will follow a multi-year plan, guiding our capacity and capabilities to provide distinctive services for students, researchers, and academic staff. There will also be a continued emphasis on supporting socially engaged initiatives, ensuring the Foundation remains a dynamic platform for knowledge, culture, and community development.

2025+ Noolaham Plan Initiatives:

- Advancing access to research and sustainability scholarly publishing models
- Improve the digital library experience
- Support a strong organization, people and culture following a period of massive change.
- Started to plan new project ideas to implement in the year 2025.
 1. Noolaham Digital Library Collection Development 2025
 2. Noolaham cloud storage solution
 3. Constitutional Reform Proposals made by Tamil political parties from 1921-present: Documenting the Tamil side of the story in Sri Lanka's fractured process for a Constitutional Settlement
 4. Digitization of Thillainathan's collection

15. Acknowledgements

A 21st-century knowledge institution must actively engage with its community, and we are fortunate that so many individuals and organizations have chosen to collaborate with us. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of them.

Our volunteers have contributed in numerous ways; donors have strengthened the Foundation's financial support; technical staff, advisors, patrons, and well-wishers have generously offered their guidance and assistance; and, most importantly, our content providers, authors, and publishers continue to play a pivotal role in the growth of our collections. We sincerely thank you for your continued support and contributions, which make the work of the Noolaham Foundation possible.

16. Contribution

Sri Lanka

Account Name: Noolaham Foundation

Account Number: 1100063121

Bank : Commercial Bank (Thirunelvely Branch), Colombo, Sri Lanka

Swift code: CCEYLKLX

United Kingdom

Account Name: Noolaham UK Limited

Bank: Barclays Bank

Sort Code: 20 72 91

Account Number: 30926124

Canada

Account Name: Noolaham

Bank: CIBC

Transit Number: 02232

Account Number: 03232-99-43811

Norway

Account Name: Noolaham Norway

Bank: DNB Bank

Account Number: 01503.36.33731

Australia

Account Name: Noolaham Australia Pty Limited

Bank: CBA

CBA Number: 062692

Account Number: 42492281

17. Profile of the Organization

Registered Name	Noolaham Foundation
Established	2005 May 2010
Incorporated	GA 2390
Registration Head Office	Noolaham Foundation, 55, Somasundharam lane, Chundikuli, Jaffna, Sri Lanka
Batticaloa Address	1st floor Arasady Public library, Arasady, Batticaloa
Telephone	0094 212231292
Email	noolahamfoundation@gmail.com
Noolaham Digital Library	www.noolaham.org
Noolaham Multimedia	www.noolaham.media
Noolaham School	www.noolaham.school
Laboratory	www.noolaham.tech
Noolaham Canada	80 Douglas Haig Drive, Markham, ON, L3S 2E1, Canada
Noolaham UK	27-B High Street Plaistow London, E13 0AD United Kingdom
Noolaham Norway	Klaus Torgards vei 12 B 0372 OSLO, Norway
Noolaham Australia	Cherrybrook, NSW, 2126